Improvement in Jan Kerosene Pariyojana

†674. SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jan Kerosene Pariyojana launched for checking the black marketing of kerosene in the country and making it available only to the people belonging to poor strata is on the verge of

collapse;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of steps taken to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Govemment approved an innovative pilot project for radically revamping the PDS kerosene distribution network to ensure that this heavily subsidized product is actually made available in the required quantities at subsidized prices to the intended beneficiaries, and also to reverse and eventually eliminate the diversion of PDS SKO for adulteration.

The pilot project under the name of Jan Kerosene Pariyojana (JKP) was launched with effect from 2nd October, 2005 for a period of 6 months. Government has been reviewing the JKP from time to time and is taking necessary action to further streamline the system. Based on the Diagnostic Study conducted by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and a review taken by the Government, the pilot scheme was initially extended for 3 months up to 30th June, 2006 and again up to 30th September, 2006. It has now been further extended up to 30th June, 2007.

LNG Terminal at Kochi

675. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether formalities are completed for the setting up of LNG Terminal atVallarpadam, Kochi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.